

December 1, 1971

Dr. Ernest Winocour
Department of Genetics
Weizmann Institute of Science
Rehovot, Israel

Dear Ernest:

Your paper on the presence of cellular DNA in the DNA of defective SV40 virions is very interesting. I would be happy to help in the experiments with DNA fragments which you outlined. We have looked at the H. influenzae restriction enzyme cleavage of DNA from light defective particles, and the digest contains all the pieces seen with DNA from normal particles plus others. I am not yet content with these experiments and have just prepared another batch of labelled DNA from defectives to repeat the digestion and electrophoresis.

Kathleen Danna is sending you a culture of H. influenzae and directions for growing it. We have been told by Roger Herriott, from whom this strain was obtained, that it is nonpathogenic. We shall have a large batch of enzyme shortly and can send you some of it, if it can be shipped in ice. However, preparation of the enzyme is not difficult using the Smith and Wilcox assay.

I have the feeling that attempting to collaborate might be troublesome, although I would enjoy the association. Let's do whatever is necessary to get the work done and if our part turns out to be minor, there is no need to consider the project a collaborative one.

With my best regards to you and to Maxine,

Sincerely,

Daniel Nathans

DN:as